

## 5 WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for alleviating a disease state resulting from a microbial infection affecting sub-dermal soft tissue in a predetermined area of the body, said method comprising the steps of:

10 providing a treatment composition comprising, in combination:

- (i) a selected antimicrobial compound; and
- (ii) a selected mobilizing agent in an amount sufficient to enable said antimicrobial compound to penetrate into said sub-dermal soft tissue; and

15 applying said treatment composition to said predetermined area of the body so that said antimicrobial compound penetrates said sub-dermal soft tissue so as to reach said microbial infection therein.

20 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of applying said treatment compound comprises:

applying said treatment composition topically to a skin area overlying said sub-dermal soft tissue in said predetermined area of the body.

25 3. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of applying said treatment composition comprises:

applying said treatment composition by injection into said sub-dermal soft tissue in said area of the body.

30 4. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of said selected antimicrobial compound comprises a macrolide antibiotic.

5. The method of claim 4, wherein the step of providing said treatment composition comprises:

35 selecting said antimicrobial compound from the group consisting of azithromycin, erythromycin and roxithromycin.

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6. The method of claim 5, wherein said mobilizing agent comprises a gel compound.

7. The method of claim 6, wherein said gel compound is PLO gel.

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8. The method of claim 1, wherein said treatment composition further comprises:  
(iii) a penetration enhancing adjuvant.

9. The method of claim 8, wherein said penetration enhancing adjuvant comprises d-limonene.

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10. A treatment composition for alleviating a disease state resulting from a microbial infection affecting sub-dermal soft tissue in a predetermined area of the body, said treatment composition comprising:

- (i) a selected antimicrobial compound; and
- (ii) a selected mobilizing agent in an amount sufficient to enable said antimicrobial compound to penetrate into said sub-dermal soft tissue so as to reach said microbial infection therein when said composition is applied to said predetermined area of the body.

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11. The treatment composition of claim 10, wherein said antimicrobial compound comprises a macrolide antibiotic compound.

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12. The treatment composition of claim 11, wherein said macrolide antibiotic composition is selected from the group consisting of azithromycin, erythromycin and roxithromycin.

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13. The treatment compound of claim 12, wherein said macrolide antibiotic compound is azithromycin.

5           14.    The treatment composition of claim 12, wherein said mobilizing agent comprises a selected organogel compound.

          15.    The treatment composition of claim 13, wherein said organogel compound is PLO gel.

10           16.    The treatment composition of claim 10, further comprising:  
              (iii)   a selected penetration enhancing adjuvant for increasing penetration of said sub-dermal soft tissue in said predetermined area of the body.

5           17.    The treatment composition of claim 16, wherein said penetration enhancing adjuvant comprises d-limonene.

          18.    A treatment composition for alleviating pain and inflammation resulting from a microbial infection affecting sub-dermal musculoskeletal tissue in a predetermined area of the body, said treatment composition comprising:

- 20               (i)    a macrolide antibiotic compound selected from the group consisting of azithromycin, erythromycin and roxithromycin; and
- (ii)    PLO gel in an amount sufficient to enable said macrolide antibiotic compound to penetrate into said sub-dermal soft tissue so as to reach said microbial infection therein when said composition is applied topically to said predetermined area of the body.

25           19.    The treatment composition of claim 18, wherein said macrolide antibiotic compound is present in said composition in an amount in the range from about 50 mg/cc of PLO gel to about 3 gm/cc of PLO gel.

          20.    The treatment composition of claim 19, wherein said macrolide antibiotic compound is azithromycin.

5           21.     The treatment composition of claim 20, wherein said azithromycin is present in  
said composition in an amount of about 250 mg/cc of PLO gel.

10           22.     The treatment composition of claim 18, further comprising:  
a selected penetration enhancing adjuvant for increasing penetration of said  
macrolide antibiotic compound into said sub-dermal soft tissue.

          23.     The treatment composition of claim 22, wherein said penetration enhancing  
adjuvant comprises d-limonene.

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